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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/935,016	08/21/2001	John C. Ruttenger	PA1686US	9088
22830	7590	02/22/2005	EXAMINER	
CARR & FERRELL LLP 2200 GENG ROAD PALO ALTO, CA 94303			HU, JINSONG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2154	
DATE MAILED: 02/22/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/935,016

Applicant(s)

RUTTENBERG ET AL.

Examiner

Jinsong Hu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 August 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-76 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 64-66 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18, 20-35, 37-53, 55-63 and 67-76 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 19, 36 and 54 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8/22/02.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-76 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 4, 6, 10-12, 21-22, 29, 32, 67-68 and 73 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Porter et al. (US 6,332,023).

4. As per claims 1, 4, 10, 21-22, 67-68 and 73, Porter teaches the invention as claimed including a system for scheduling a data transfer over a communication network, comprising of a node configured to send data [13a-e, Fig. 1; col. 4, lines 15-31]; a node configured to receive data [col. 4, lines 17-25]; and a transfer module at each node configured to evaluate a data transfer request in view of satisfying objectives in accordance with resources at each node [16, Fig. 1; col. 4, lines 46-56; col. 5, lines 56-65; col. 7, lines 37-44].

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5. As per claim 6, Porter teaches the objectives include a deadline for the delivery of the requested data to the node configured to receive data [col. 7, lines 20-28].

6. As per claims 11-12 and 32, Porter teaches the transfer module includes an admission control module configured to accept or deny a data transfer request from a user [col. 7, lines 51-65].

7. As per claim 29, Porter teaches the transfer module includes a priority module configured to assign a priority to the data transfer request [col. 8, lines 8-11].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 2-3, 8-9, 27, 41-44, 48-49, 52, 56, 58 and 72 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Porter et al. (US 6,332,023) as applied to claims 1, 4, 6, 10-12, 21-22, 29, 32, 67-68 and 73 above, in view of Nakano et al. (US 6,337,850).

10. As per claims 2-3 and 8-9, Porter teaches the invention substantially as claimed

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in claim 1. Porter does not specifically mention an transmitting bandwidth and an available receive bandwidth. However, Nakano on the other hand teaches an transmitting bandwidth and an available receive bandwidth [col. 9, lines 23-27 and 40-41; col. 10, lines 1-14]. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Porter and Nakano because doing so would increase the throughput of the system by avoiding delivering inappropriate size data packet to a requester whose bandwidth is insufficient. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify Porter's system with Nakano's transmitting and available receive bandwidth to improve the performance of the system.

11. As per claims 27 and 41-44, Porter teaches the invention substantially as claimed in claim 1. Porter does not specifically disclose the steps of allocating and reserving bandwidth in both transmitting and receiving node. However, Nakano on the other hand teaches the steps of allocating and reserving bandwidth in both transmitting and receiving nodes [col. 9, lines 23-27 and 40-41; col. 10, lines 1-11]. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Porter and Nakano because doing so would reduce packet collision during the data transfer [Nakano, col. 2, lines 64-67]. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify Porter's system with Nakano's allocating and reserving bandwidth in both transmitting and receiving nodes to control transfer bandwidth.

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12. As per claims 48-49, 52, 56 and 58, since they are method claims of claims 2 and 8-9, they are rejected for the same basis as claims 2 and 8-9 above.

13. As per claim 72, since it teaches the same limitation as claims 2-3, they are rejected for the same basis as claims 2-3 above.

14. Claims 5, 15-18, 20, 23-26, 28, 33-35, 37-40, 45-47, 50-51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 63, 69-70 and 74-76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Porter et al. (US 6,332,023) as applied to claims 1, 4, 6, 10-12, 21-22, 29, 32, 67-68 and 73 above, in view of Marshall (US 6,208,661).

15. As per claims 5, 15-18, 20, 23-26, 33-35 and 37-40, Porter teaches the invention substantially as claimed in claim 1. Porter does not specifically teach a scheduling module is configured for identifying the data, available resources at that node, and a deadline for delivery. However, Marshall on the other hand teaches a scheduling module for identifying the data, available resources at that node, and a deadline for delivery [col. 7, line 24 – col. 8, line 6]. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Porter and Marshall because utilizing Marshall's schedule module in Porter's system would improve the integrity of the system by delivering the data packet based on a predetermined time slot. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to

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modify Porter's system with Marshall's schedule module to avoid the network transmitting congestion.

16. As per claims 28 and 45-46, Marshall teaches the transfer module includes an execution module configured to execute accepted data transfers under guidance of execution instructions from the scheduling module [col. 8, line 62 – col. 9, line 9; col. 14, lines 21-25].

17. As per claims 47 and 50-51, Porter teaches the invention substantially as claim 1. Porter does not specifically teach a scheduling module for schedule delivering. However, Marshall on the other hand teaches a scheduling module for schedule delivering [col. 7, line 24 – col. 8, line 6]. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Porter and Marshall because utilizing Marshall's schedule module in Porter's system would make the system more user friendly by allowing user has a chance to receive the required information in a later time instead of being simply rejected. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify Porter's system with Marshall's schedule module to attract more potential customers.

18. As per claims 53, 55, 57 and 59, since they are method claims of claims 5 and 17, it is rejected for the same basis as claims 5 and 17 above.

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19. As per claim 63, since it is a manufacture claim of claim 47, it is rejected for the same basis as claim 47 above.

20. As per claims 69-70 and 74-76, since they are teach the same limitations as claims 23-26, they are rejected for same basis as claims 23-26 above.

21. Claims 7, 13-14, 30-31 and 71 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Porter et al. (US 6,332,023) as applied to claims 1, 4, 6, 10-12, 21-22, 29, 32, 67-68 and 73 above, in view of "Official Notice".

22. As per claims 7 and 71, Porter teaches the invention substantially as claimed in claim 1. Porter does not specifically disclose the objectives include minimizing the cost of delivery. "Official Notice" is taken that both the concept and advantages of selecting a resource based on the delivery cost is well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to consider minimizing the delivery cost to enable the user has a chance to receive the required service in acceptable cost.

23. As per claim 13-14, Porter teaches the invention substantially as claimed in claim 1. Porter does not specifically teaches the step of suggesting a different deadline or offering to place a denied data transfer request on a waiting list. "Official Notice" is taken that both the concept and advantages of providing for new deadline suggestion and waiting list option are well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to

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a person of ordinary skill in the art to include new deadline suggestion and waiting list option with Porter because it would provide better service to users.

24. As per claim 30, Porter teaches the invention substantially as claimed in claim 1. Porter does not specifically teach the transfer module includes an error recovery module configured to maintain a current state of the transfer module to allow a node to be restarted. "Official Notice" is taken that both the concept and advantages of error recover function is well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include error recover function with Porter because it would make the system more reliable.

25. As per claim 31, Porter teaches the invention substantially as claimed in claim 1. Porter does not specifically disclose the data transfer request includes an earliest deadline and a latest deadline. "Official Notice" is taken that both the concept and advantages of either earliest or latest deadline is well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include those deadlines with Porter because it would enable the user received the information that he/she required in his/her expected time frame.

26. Claims 60-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Porter et al. (US 6,332,023) as applied to claims 1, 4, 6, 10-12, 21-22, 29, 32, 67-68 and 73 above, in view of Marshall (US 6,208,661), further in view of "Official Notice".

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27. As per claim 60, Porter and Marshall teach the invention substantially as claimed in claim 47. Both references do not specifically teaches the step of suggesting a different deadline or offering to place a denied data transfer request on a waiting list. "Official Notice" is taken that both the concept and advantages of providing for new deadline suggestion and waiting list option are well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include new deadline suggestion and waiting list option with Porter/Marshall because it would provide better service to users.

28. As per claims 61-62, Porter and Marshall teach the invention substantially as claimed in claim 47. Both references do not specifically disclose the data transfer request includes an earliest deadline and a latest deadline. "Official Notice" is taken that both the concept and advantages of either earliest or latest deadline is well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to include those deadlines with Porter/Marshall because it would enable the user received the information that he/she required in his/her expected time frame.

Allowable Subject Matter

29. Claims 19, 36 and 54 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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30. Claims 64-66 are allowed.

Conclusion

31. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Bernet et al (US 2004/0022191) discloses a service system; and

Basani et al. (US 6,748,447), discloses a network distribution system.

32. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jinsong Hu whose telephone number is (571) 272-3965. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jinsong Hu

February 18, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Follansbee', written in a cursive style.

**JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100**